Claims

We claim:

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- A method of configuring a server computer having a connection pool, comprising:
 initializing a connection pool;
 generating heuristic override information; and
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the connection pool is initialized using a plurality of initial settings.

modifying the connection pool using the heuristic override information.

- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of initial settings comprises a maximum number of connections.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a heuristic override setting and a time period.
 - 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the heuristic override setting comprises a maximum number of connections.

- 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the time period comprises at least one of a time of day, a day of week, and a day of year.
- 7. A method of operating a server, comprising:

initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of connections; applying heuristic information to modify the maximum number of connections; in response to receiving a request to connect:

detecting a current number of connections; and

if the current number of connections is less than the maximum number of connections, creating a new connection.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

detecting a connection having an unused time greater than a time-out value; and deleting the connection.

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9. The method of claim 7, wherein the heuristic information comprises a maximum number of connections override and a time period.

10. The method of claim 7, further comprising

in response to receiving a request to connect, resetting an unused time associated with every available connections.

- 5 11. The method of claim 7, further comprising if the current number of connections is greater than or equal to the maximum number of connections, waiting for a connection to become available.
- 12. The method of claim 7, further comprising in response to receiving a close connection request for a connection, indicating the connection as available.
 - 13. The method of claim 7, wherein the connection pool comprises Java Database Connectivity connections.
- 15 14. The method of claim 7, wherein the connection pool comprises Java 2 Connector connections.

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(a) a program configured to perform a method of operating a server, comprising:

initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of connections;

applying heuristic information to modify the maximum number of connections;

in response to receiving a request to connect:

detecting a current number of connections; and

if the current number of connections is less than the maximum number of connections, creating a new connection; and

(b) a signal bearing media bearing the program.

- 16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the program comprises an application server.
- 17. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the signal bearing media is chosen from the group consisting of: information permanently stored on non-writable storage media; alterable information stored on writable storage media; and information conveyed to a computer by a communications medium.

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18. A method of managing a connection pool, the method comprising: instructing a computing device to initialize a connection pool; and instructing the computing device to modify the connection pool using heuristic override information.

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- 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising generating the heuristic override information.
- 20. The method of claim 18, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a maximum number of connections and a time period.